UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/697,467	10/30/2003	Shiomi Ohno	7217/70979	7434

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2163	

DATE MAILED: 05/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/697,467	OHNO, SHIOMI
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Angela M. Lie	~~2824~~ 2163	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *30 October 2003*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-9* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-9* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *30 October 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

1.   35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2.   Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the preamble of the claim lists a program that causes a computer to execute, does not clearly define if the program is embedded in the system. If the relation between the computer and the program is not stated the program on its own is an abstract idea and the computer by itself (no software embedded) is not capable of performing any useful function.

3.   Furthermore, claim 1,7,8 and 9 do not indicate a useful result. The applicant shows the calculation step, however there is no statement, which would clarify the goal of those calculations.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5.   Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

6.   The term "prescribed page" in claims 1-9 is a relative term which renders the

claim indefinite. The term "prescribed page" is not defined by the claim, the

specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one

of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the

invention. The instant specification does not clearly define the meaning of the

prescribed page. The examiner does not know how the prescribed page is obtained or

how it is appointed. The claim language has to be very clear and definite, there is not

place for uncertainty.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8.   Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pant et al

(US Patent 6012053).

As to claim 1, Pant discloses an information processing device comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring data for pages of a site (column 1, lines 57-58);

extraction means for extracting a word appearing within said pages using said data for

said pages acquired by said acquisition means (column 9, lines 35-43); counting

means for counting the number of times said word extracted by said extraction means

appears within said pages (column 6, lines 66-67 and column 7, lines 1-5; since

frequency of the word occurrence is calculated, it is inherent that prior to it, the number

of times the word appears in the document or page has to be counted); first generating

means for analyzing a link structure between said pages acquired by said acquisition

means (column 13, lines 9-18; wherein documents linked to its source have a specific

link structure, so that if the program can establish that the document is a child, it also

reads on analyzing the link structure so the relation of the document with respect to

other documents can be established), and for generating first weightings for between

said pages in link relationships using a count value by said counting means (column 1,

lines 59-60); second generating means for generating second weightings for between

pages in link relationships with a prescribed page using said first weightings generated

by said first generating means (Figure 4, if the first result is not good enough, the

search can be repeated i.e. so the second set of weights can be produced); third

generating means for generating at least one of SDF data and CDF data using said

second weightings generated by said second generating means (column 2, lines 15-

21); and calculating means for calculating a prescribed value through page model

extension processing based on at least one of ISDF (Inverse Sibling Document

Frequency) and ICDF (Inverse Co-parent Document Frequency) using said data

generated by said third generating means (column 7, lines 1-5; the word frequency is

calculated for each resulting page both for a parent and a child pages, as shown in

figure 9, result 1 and 2 refer to parent and child, which inherently have a link

relationship).

As to claim 2, Pant discloses the information processing device wherein the calculating means comprises first calculating means and further comprising second calculating means for calculating a relevance between <u>prescribed pages</u> of the acquired pages using the prescribed value calculated by the first calculating means (column 2, lines 28-37; at first the weights (relevance) is carried out (first calculating means) and then it is applied to the search results (calculating final score corresponding to the second calculation means).

As to claim 3, Pant discloses the information processing device as disclosed in claim 1, wherein when said second generating means takes said <u>prescribed page</u> to be a link source (Figure 9, results 1 and 2, result 2 is a parent for result 1), and calculates said second weightings for link destination pages linked to from said link source (the weights (score) are calculated for each relevant page, column 2, lines 15-21 and column 13, lines 9-18, each document/page has a hyperlink to the source document/page), said third generating means generates said SDF data, and said calculating means calculates said prescribed value using page model extension processing based on said ISDF (column 6, lines 66-67 and column 7 lines 1-5), when said second generating means takes said prescribed page to be a link destination, and calculates said second weightings (column 6, lines 19-32; once relevance factors (weights) are established, they are used to calculate overall score of the resulting pages) for between link source pages linking to said link destination, said third generating means generates said CDF data, and said calculating means calculates said prescribed value using page model extension processing based on said ICDF

(column 6, lines 66-67 and column 7 lines 1-5), and when said second generating

means calculates both said second weightings in which said prescribed page is taken

to be a link source and which is for link destination pages linked to from said link

source, as well as said second weightings in which said prescribed page is taken to be

a link destination and which is for between link source pages linking to said link

destination, said third generating means generates both said SDF data and said CDF

data, and said calculating means calculates said prescribed value using page model

extension processing based on said ISDF and said ICDF (column 13, lines 9-18 and

column 6, lines 66-67 and column 7 lines 1-5, the inverse document frequency is

calculated for all of the resulting pages which might have hierarchy structure in other

words parent and child or co-parent).

As to claim 4, Pant discloses the information processing device wherein the

calculating means calculates the prescribed value (column 7, lines 44-67 and column

8, lines 1-12 and column 1, lines 59-60) using the number of times a prescribed word

appears in the prescribed page (column 6, lines 66-67) and the data generated by the

third generating means corresponding to pages containing the prescribed word of

pages in a link relationship (column 13, lines 9-18), which is generated by the second

generating means, with the prescribed page.

As to claim 5, Pant discloses the information processing device further

comprising: storage means for storing the relevance calculated by the second

generating means (column 11, lines 25-29 and figure 4, element 204, in order to

update the record, record has to be previously stored), and providing means for

referring to the relevance stored in the storage means, and providing information for

pages having high relevance with respect to the <u>prescribed page</u> when a request is

made for provision of information for pages related to the prescribed page (Figure 1

shown below, element 336).

1) <u>Bill Clinton -- Issue Information</u> ⟋330
Candidate for President of the United States Bill Clinton Party: Democrat ⟋332
Please Note This cand... ⟋336
http://vote-smart.org/cam [100%] ⟋336
⟍334
2) <u>Bill Clinton -- Issue Information</u>
Candidate for President of the United States Bill Clinton: Democrat
Please Note This cand...
http://www.vote-smart.org [100%]

3) <u>All About Bill Clinton - President of the United States</u>
Get paid - Free Web Site Join 42,000 People Worldwide! Search Icemall's
Bookstore: Fortunes! Go...
htp://www.icemall.com/al [82%]

Figure 1

As to claim 6, Pant discloses the information processing device wherein the

providing means provides information for advertising relating to the <u>prescribed page</u>

when providing the information (as shown in figure 2 below, i.e. the device is capable

of providing advertisement).

3) <u>All About Bill Clinton - President of the United States</u>
Get paid - Free Web Site Join 42,000 People Worldwide! Search Icemall's
Bookstore: Fortunes! Go...
htp://www.icemall.com/al [82%]

Figure 2

As to claims 7-9, Pant discloses information processing method, a recording

medium recorded with a computer – readable program and a program embedded on

the readable media comprising: an acquisition step of acquiring data for pages of a

site; an extraction step of extracting a word appearing within said pages using said

data for said pages acquired in said acquisition step (column 9, lines 35-43); a counting

step of counting the number of times said word extracted in said extraction step

appears within said pages (column 6, lines 66-67 and column 7, lines 1-5; since

frequency of the word occurrence is calculated, it is inherent that prior to it, the number

of times the word appears in the document or page has to be counted); a first

generating step of analyzing a link structure between said pages acquired in

said acquisition step (column 13, lines 9-18; wherein documents linked to its source

have a specific link structure, so that if the program can establish that the document is

a child, it also reads on analyzing the link structure so the relation of the document with

respect to other documents can be established), and of generating first weightings for

between said pages in link relationships using a count value from said counting step; a

second generating step of generating second weightings for between pages in link

relationships with a prescribed page using said first weightings generated in said first

generating step; a third generating step of generating at least one of SDF data and

CDF data using said second weightings generated in said second generating step; a

first calculating step of calculating a prescribed value through page model extension

processing based on at least one of ISDF and ICDF using said data generated in said

third generating step; and a second calculating step of calculating relevance between

prescribed pages of said acquired pages using said prescribed value calculated in said

first calculating step.

The Prior Art

9.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

-       US Publication 20030101286 discloses an inferred relation weighting

        process to determine relation between objects and links.

-       US Patent 6584468 discloses a method for searching network for

        information relevant to people and resources using a search list of

        weighted links to the files.

Inquiry

10.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Angela M. Lie whose telephone number is 571-272-

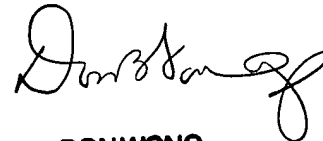8445. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

        If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571-272-1834. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Angela M Lie

DON WONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER